GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3544
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
IRREGULARITIES IN ALLOTMENT OF COAL BLOCKS
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities have been found in allotment of coal blocks to various power-producing companies as reported in `The Hindustan` dated March 19, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto; (

(c) whether Central Electricity Authority has framed any norms for companies who applied for coai blocks;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the names of the companies who failed to fulfil such norms and later on allotted coal blocks?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA)

(a)& (b): No, Sir. The allocation was made following due process and in accordance with the guidelines.

(c) & (d) : The coal blocks were allocated based on guidelines framed by the Government for allocation of coal block and not on the basis of any- norms framed by the Central Electricity Authority. Inter-se priority for allocation of a block among competing applicants for a captive block was decided as per the following guidelines:

i) Status (stage) level of progress and state of preparedness of the projects

ii) Networth of the applicant company (or in the case of a new SP/JV, the networth of their principals);

iii) Production capacity as proposed in the application;

iv) Maximum recoverable reserve as proposed in the application;

v) Date of commissioning of captive mine as proposed in the application;

vi) Date of completion of detailed exploration (in respect of unexplored blocks only) as proposed in the application;

vii) Technical experience (in terms of existing capacities in coal/lignite mining and specified end use);

viii) Recommendation of the Administrative Ministry concerned;

ix) Recommendation of the State Government concerned (i.e. where the captive block is located);

x) Track record and financial strength of the company.

e) Does notarise in view of reply to part (c) & (d) above.